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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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SUBJECT

Soviet Influence

in the Bulgarian Army

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- The only Soviet personnel in Bulgaria who wear uniforms are the military instructors in the Bulgarian Army. These instructors have the rank of major or above. Other Soviets in Bulgaria wear civilian clothes. Most of the Soviet instructors are in the Air Force, Navy, and armored units.
- 2. Uniforms and insignia of members of the Bulgarian Army are almost identical with those of the Soviet Army, and as a consequence, Bulgarian soldiers are often mistaken for members of the Soviet Army. Names of grades in the Bulgarian Army are now identical with those in the Soviet Army.
- 3. Until 1 March 1952, officers, non-commissioned officers, and military employees received their uniforms free of charge. Currently, however, non-commissioned officers and low-ranking military employees pay 15 percent of the uniform value, company officers and medium-ranking employees pay 30 percent, and field officers and highly-paid employees pay 50 percent. Since approximately April 1951, officers have not been given the additional rations they formerly received.

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